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Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN AF-18

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 RSC-01 SS-20 SSO-00 ISO-00 DODE-00

NSC-10 PM-07 L-03 NSCE-00 /060 R

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O O 080203Z NOV 73 ZFF4
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
USCINCEUR
INFO USINT CAIRO IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 220349

TOSEC 203, ZFF CAIRO ONLY

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (LINE 17 PARA A OMITTED)

E.O. 11652: GSD
TAGS: MASS, ET, US
SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE FOR ETHIOPIA
REFERENCES: (A) CMAAG 281500Z SEP 73
(B) STATE 216832
(C) RABAT 4865 (SECTO 008 NOTAL)
(D) USDAO ADDIS 051100Z NOV 73

ADDIS FOR NEWSOM

FOLLOWING IS RESULT OF OUR CURRENT REVIEW OF ITEMS PROPOSED
FOR FMS CREDITS IN REFERENCE (A). AS POINTED OUT PARA 4,
REF (B), PRIOR TO PASSAGE OF FY 74 SECURITY ASSISTANCE
LEGISLATION, WE ARE NOT ABLE TO MAKE A FIRM COMMITMENT ON
AMOUNT OF FMS CREDIT AVAILABLE TO ETHIOPIA IN FY 74.
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A. IN LIGHT OF SECRETARY'S RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGE IN POLICY CONTAINED REF (C), WE INITIATING ACTION PROMPTLY FOR PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION WAIVING SECTION 4, FMS ACT, AS AMENDED, WHICH RESTRICTS USE OF CREDIT FUNDS FOR SALE OF SOPHISTICATED WEAPONS SUCH AS MISSILE SYSTEMS TO UNDER-DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. CONSEQUENTLY, NO COMMITMENT CAN BE MADE TO IEG CONCERNING U.S. APPROVAL THIS ITEM UNTIL PRESIDENTIAL DETERMINATION MADE. WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT ON THE REPORT THAT SOVIETS GAVE ASSURANCES TO EMPEROR THAT THEY WOULD EXERCISE RESTRAINT IN FUTURE DELIVERY OF WEAPONS TO SOMALIA (REF (D) AND, IF REPORT CONSIDERED TO BE RELIABLE, ON CONSEQUENT IMPLICATIONS

PROVISION OF SIDEWINDERS BY U.S. MIGHT HAVE ON ALLEGED SOVIET WILLINGNESS EXERCISE RESTRAINT. IF AFTER CONSIDERING ABOVE ELEMENTS, YOU DEEM IT ADVISABLE, YOU MAY TELL IEG SECRETARY IS RECOMMENDING TO PRESIDENT THAT USG PROVIDE SIDEWINDERS.
B. REGARDING MAAG RECOMMENDATION, WE DO NOT CONCUR IN PROVIDING IEG THE REDEYE MISSILE SINCE THIS POSES A PARTICULAR PROBLEM BECAUSE OF THE SPECIAL OPERATIONAL AND CONTROL DIFFICULTIES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS WEAPON. MOREOVER, USG HAS MADE THIS WEAPON AVAILABLE TO FOREIGN COUNTRIES ONLY ON A VERY SELECTIVE BASIS AND UNDER SPECIFIED CONDITIONS. IT HAS NOT BEEN MADE AVAILABLE TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES.

C. FMS CREDIT IS NORMALLY NOT UTILIZED FOR AMMUNITION SINCE WE GENERALLY PREFER NOT TO UTILIZE LIMITED FMS CREDIT FOR ITEMS WHICH COULD BE CONSUMED BEFORE THE CREDIT DEBT IS PAID. AGAIN, CURRENT INFORMATION ON IEG THINKING ABOUT USE OF FMS CREDITS WOULD BE HELPFUL TO OUR CONSIDERATION OF THIS MATTER. RUSH

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